



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 47

February Session, 2008

Substitute House Bill No. 5610

House of Representatives, March 19, 2008

The Committee on General Law reported through REP. STONE of the 9th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT REQUIRING LAST SALE DATES FOR RETAIL PRODUCTS.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

- 1 Section 1. (NEW) (*Effective January 1, 2009*) The Commissioner of
2 Weights and Measures shall adopt regulations, in accordance with
3 chapter 54 of the general statutes, incorporating, by reference, the
4 Uniform Open Dating Regulation, as adopted and as amended from
5 time to time, by the National Conference on Weights and Measures
6 and published in the National Institute of Standards and Technology
7 Handbook 130, or subsequent corresponding handbook of the United
8 States Department of Commerce.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	<i>January 1, 2009</i>	New section
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GL Joint Favorable Subst.

The following fiscal impact statement and bill analysis are prepared for the benefit of members of the General Assembly, solely for the purpose of information, summarization, and explanation, and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose:

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill requires the Commissioner of Consumer Protection (DCP) to adopt regulations by reference to the federal Uniform Open Dating Regulation and has no fiscal impact as DCP has sufficient staff to accomplish the task.

The Out Years

State Impact: None

Municipal Impact: None

OLR Bill Analysis**sHB 5610*****AN ACT REQUIRING LAST SALE DATES FOR RETAIL PRODUCTS.*****SUMMARY:**

This act requires the consumer protection commissioner to adopt regulations incorporating by reference the federal Uniform Open Dating Regulation as adopted and amended from time to time by the National Conference on Weights and Measures and published in the National Institute of Standards and Technology Handbook 130, or subsequent corresponding handbook of the federal Department of Commerce.

EFFECTIVE DATE: January 1, 2009

BACKGROUND***National Conference of Weights and Measures***

The conference is supported by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) to assist the institute in fulfilling its statutory responsibility to cooperate with the states to secure uniformity in weights and measures laws and methods of inspection. NIST is a non-regulatory agency within the federal Department of Commerce.

Uniform Open Dating Regulation

“Open Dating” (using a calendar date as opposed to a code on a food product) is a date stamped on a product's package to help the store determine how long to display the product for sale. It can also help the purchaser to know the time limit to purchase or use the product at its best quality. The NIST open dating regulation prescribes how the date must be expressed and defines such terms as “sell by,” and “best if used by.”

COMMITTEE ACTION

General Law Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute

Yea 19 Nay 0 (03/04/2008)